

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 SCI-06 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-15 NSC-10 IO-13 /108 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ ISO: FJFLEMINGS/ JCS/ J-5: CAPT. KAY: ILB

5/29/73 EXT. 21003

APPROVED BY PM/ ISO: JDSTODDART

AF/ RA - COL. GRIFFIN

NEA/ RA - MR. CHASE

AF/ E - MR. MELONE

AF/ C - MR. HAYDEN

OSD/ ISA/ NESA - MR. TIMBERLAKE

OSD/ GC - MR. HERO

OSD/ ISA/ AF - MR. BADER

OSD/ FMRA - MR. LONG

----- 079157

P R 301538 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

CINCLANT

DOD

CINCEUR

CINCPAC

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E. O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: OCLR, MARR, XO, MP

SUBJECT: METEOROLOGICAL FLIGHTS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

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1. DOD HAS INFORMED STATE THAT U. S. NAVY WANTS TO INITIATE PERIODIC METEOROLOGICAL FLIGHTS IN THE NORTHWESTERN INDIAN OCEAN, NOT TO EXCEED ONE 2- DAY MISSION PER MONTH. WHILE HIGHER PRIORITY REQUIREMENTS COULD REDUCE FREQUENCY, EVERY EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO CONDUCT, AS A MINIMUM, FLIGHTS DURING CYCLONE SEASON (DECEMBER- APRIL). PURPOSE IS TO FILL GAP IN SCIENTIFIC DATA AND PROVIDE IMPORTANT METEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR LONG- RANGE WEATHER FORECASTING IN PART OF INDIAN OCEAN THAT IS INFREQUENTLY TRANSITED BY U. S. NAVY SHIPS. AREA OF FLIGHTS WOULD INCLUDE OPEN OCEAN BOUNDED BY 20 DEGREES SOUTH TO 10 DEGREES NORTH LATITUDE AND 45 DEGREES EAST TO 75 DEGREES EAST LONGITUDE (BEGIN FYI EXCEPT THAT TRACKS WOULD NORMALLY NOT BE PROGRAMMED TO APPROACH SOMALIA COAST CLOSER THAN 300 NM. END FYI).

2. FLIGHTS WOULD BE CONDUCTED BY SINGLE UNARMED NAVY WP-3 WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT FROM SQUADRON BASED AT JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, ENTERING INDIAN OCEAN FROM IGA . (FYI: THIS TYPE AIRCRAFT IS SIMILAR IN LOOKS TO THAT USED FOR ASW, BUT THERE IS NO ASW EQUIPMENT OR ASPECT TO THESE

PROPOSED FLIGHTS. END FYI). AIRCRAFT NORMALLY OPERATES WITH CREW OF 13. ALL EQUIPMENT ABOARD AIRCRAFT WOULD BE UNCLASSIFIED, AND OPEN TO LOCAL INSPECTION AND PARTICIPATION BY LOCAL METEOROLOGICAL SPECIALISTS ON SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. PLANE COULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR 2 OR 3 DAY LOCAL WEATHER SEARCHES IF LOCAL INTEREST AND NAVY SCHEDULE PERMITS. AIRCRAFT WOULD RECORD DATA, SUCH AS SEA SURFACE, TEMPERATURE, HUMIDITY, AND WIND. NAVY DESIRES AS FIRST CHOICE TO STAGE AIRCRAFT FLIGHTS AT PLAISANCE FIELD IN MAURITIUS.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY SEEK GOM APPROVAL FOR STAGING NAVY WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS AT PLAISANCE FIELD. AIRCRAFT WOULD GENERALLY OVERNIGHT AT PLAISANCE AND WOULD REQUIRE FUEL AND NORMAL FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT AIRFIELD. INFORMATION IN FOREGOING PARAS MAY BE PROVIDED TO GOM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(EXCEPT FYI MATERIAL). IN PRESENTING PROPOSAL, EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM GOM THAT METEOROLOGICAL DATA COLLECTED WOULD BE PROVIDED DIRECTLY TO GOM AND ALSO TO WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO POINT OUT THAT THIS DATA WILL AUGMENT DATA CURRENTLY FURNISHED FROM DIEGO GARCIA. RUSH

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAGS: MARR, MP, XO, OCLR
To: ADDIS ABABA
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